the coding region are shown in upper case, whilst those of the untranslated regions are shown in lower case. Amino acids identical between the predicted murine and human proteins are indicated by (*). DNA encoding the murine signal sequence is underlined, with A26 or T27 being the predicted first amino acid of the mature protein.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Twice Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:3 encoding a haemopoietin receptor comprising an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4 or a derivative of said receptor.

2. (Twice Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:3 encoding a haemopoietin receptor comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4 or a derivative thereof, wherein said receptor:

(i) binds with IL-13 or its derivatives; and

(ii) binds with a complex between IL-4 and IL-4 receptor α-chain.

7. (Twice Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides which encodes an IL-13 receptor α-chain or a derivative thereof, said nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 under low stringency conditions, wherein said low stringency conditions comprise 6x SSC, 0.1% w/v SDS at 42°C.

8. (Twice Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides which encodes an IL-13 receptor α-chain or a derivative thereof having an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

10. (Twice Amended) An expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 or 7 operably linked to a promoter which directs expression of said nucleic acid molecule in a host cell.

25. (Twice Amended) A composition comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 or 2 or 7 or 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

28. (Twice Amended) A method of producing a recombinant polypeptide having at least two of the following characteristics:

(i) comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4;

(ii) is encoded by a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3;

(iii) binds with IL-13 or its derivatives; and

(iv) said polypeptide, when expressed in COS cells, has a molecular weight of from about 50,000 to about 70,000 daltons as determined by Western blot analysis,

said method comprising culturing cells comprising the expression vector according to claim 10 for a time and under conditions sufficient to express the nucleic acid molecule in said expression vector to produce a recombinant polypeptide and isolating said recombinant polypeptide.

29. (Twice Amended) A method of producing a recombinant polypeptide having at least three of the following characteristics:

(i) comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4;

(ii) is encoded by a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3;

(iii) binds with IL-13 or its derivatives;

(iv) said polypeptide, when expressed in COS cells, has a molecular weight of from about 50,000 to about 70,000 daltons as determined by Western blot analysis;

(v) comprises an amino acid sequence derived from IL-4 receptor α-chain; and

(vi) is capable of interaction with IL-13 which is competitively inhibited by IL-4 in cells which express an IL-4 receptor α-chain,

said method comprising culturing cells comprising the expression vector according to claim 10 for a time and under conditions sufficient to express the nucleic acid molecule in said expression vector to produce a recombinant polypeptide and isolating said recombinant polypeptide.

30. (Twice Amended) A host cell which expresses the recombinant polypeptide produced by the method according to claim 28.

Please add the following new Claims:

36. (New) A host cell which expresses the recombinant polypeptide produced by the method according to claim 29.

37. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:3.

38. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the sequence of nucleotides which encodes an extracellular domain of a haemopoietin receptor comprising an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

39. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 38 wherein said extra - cellular domain is an immunoglobulin-like domain.

40. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 38 wherein said extra cellular domain is an haemopoietin receptor domain.

41. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 39 wherein said immunoglobulin-like domain comprises amino acids 28-118.

42. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 40 wherein said haemopoietin receptor domain comprises amino acids 119-341.

43. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 37, encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids 26-345.

44. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 37, encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids 26-426.

45. (New) A host cell which expresses the haemopoietin receptor encoded by SEQ ID NO:3.

46. (New) The host cell of any one of claims 30, 36 or 45 wherein said host cell is an animal cell.

47. (New) A method of producing a recombinant polypeptide comprising culturing cells comprising the expression vector according to claim 10 for a time and under conditions sufficient to express a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 in said expression vector and isolating said recombinant polypeptide.

48. (New) The isolated nucleic acid sequence of Claim 37 wherein said sequence comprises nucleotides 136-1095.

49. (New) The isolated nucleic acid sequence of claim 37 wherein said sequence comprises nucleotides 136-1338.